

DATE:

August 24, 2015

TO:

Gene Winstead, Mayor

Jamie Verbrugge, City Manager

FROM:

Tracy Smith, Administrative Coordinator, Human Services Division

CC:

Diann Kirby, Director, Community Services Department

Lorinda Pearson, Manager, Human Services Division

RE:

International Day of Peace Proclamation

Attached is the International Day of Peace proclamation for the Monday, August 24, 2015 City Council meeting. Jared Leese, Bloomington Human Rights Commissioner, will be present to accept the proclamation.

## Background:

In 1981, the United Nations proclaimed the International Day of Peace to be "devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples." In 2002, the United Nations General Assembly officially declared September 21<sup>st</sup> as the permanent annual date for International Day of Peace.

In 2007, at its September 10<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, the Bloomington City Council designated Bloomington Civic Plaza as a peace site and marked the first recognition of International Day of Peace locally.

The Commission will honor International Day of Peace by sponsoring a Naturalization Ceremony on Wednesday, September 9 at 1:00 p.m. in Schneider Theater and with the exhibit "A Peace of My Mind: Exploring the Meaning of Peace, One Story at a Time" from September 15 – October 4 in the Civic Plaza lobby. Exhibit creator, John Noltner will be the featured speaker on September 22 at 6:30 p.m. for a community event at Civic Plaza.

The Council is requested to declare September 21, 2015 International Day of Peace in Bloomington.

Attachment